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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

RADIO STATIONS

NEAR

SABBOURA AND SAHL ES SAHRA AIRFIELD
SYRIA

07-07-58
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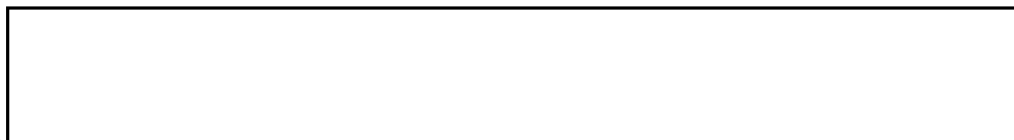
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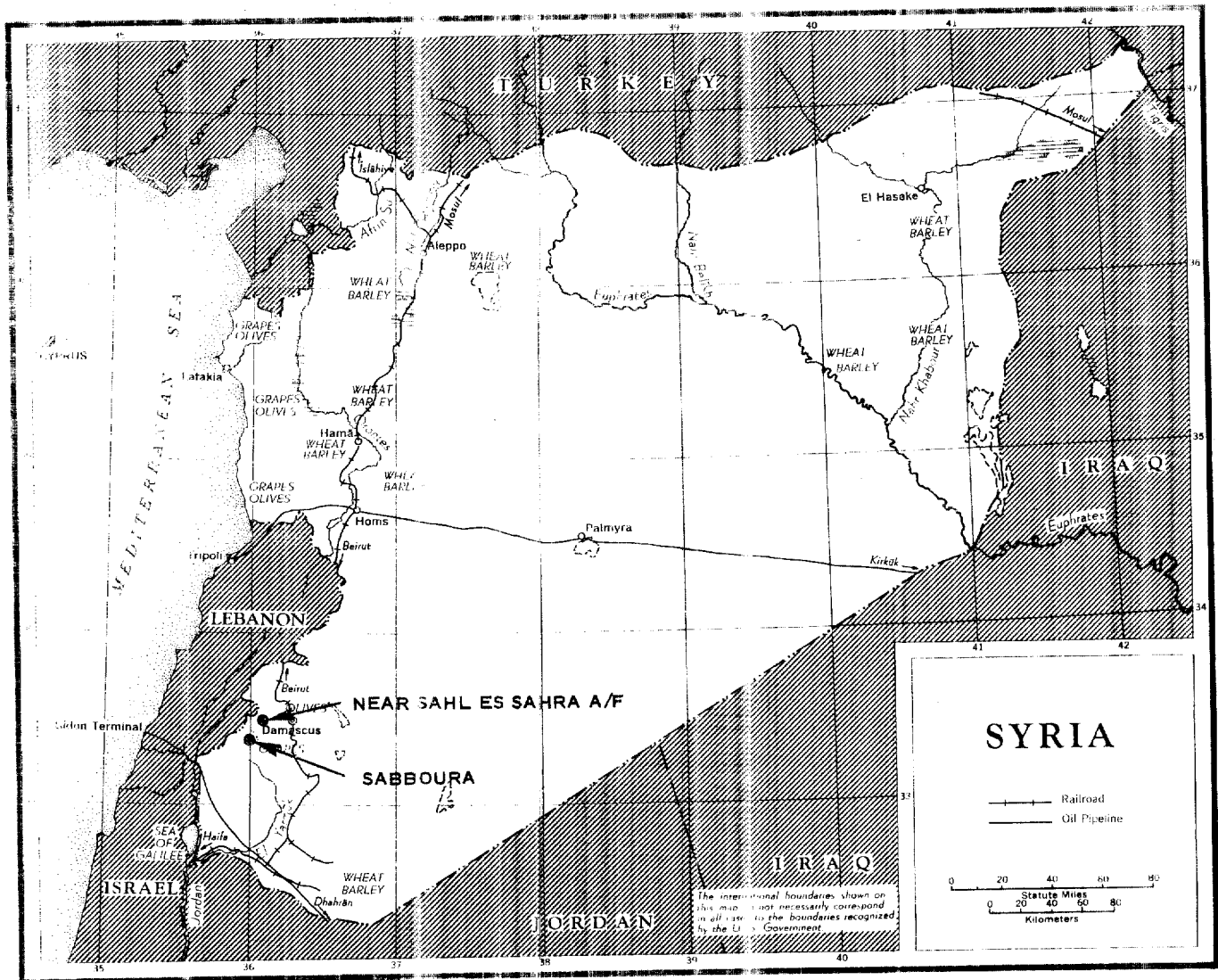
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RADIO STATIONS
NEAR SABBOURA AND SAHL ES SAHRA AIRFIELD
SYRIA

HTA/M-13/58

7 July 1958

RADIO STATIONS



INTRODUCTION

This memorandum contains a detailed description of two Syrian radio stations. One is located nine nautical miles (nm) west of Damascus, near the town of Sabboura. The most outstanding feature of this station is a 665-foot-high guyed lattice tower with a buried radial ground screen. The other radio station, under construction or recently completed, is located eight nm northwest of Damascus, near Sahl Es Sahara Airfield. This station, as it existed in [REDACTED] is characterized by a possible curtain antenna array and one rhombic antenna.

SABBOURA RADIO STATION

A large radio station is located at 33° 30' 30" N/36° 07' 15" E, one-half nm southwest of Sabboura. It lies within a fenced area approximately 2,450 by 1,000 feet and is served by a 20-foot-wide all-weather road. A possible defense net consisting of eight fixed gun positions encircles the station. The installation consists of the following facilities, which are annotated on the line drawing, page 5.

Vertical Radiator Tower: A guyed sectional vertical radiator tower 665 feet high, with an insulated base, is located in the approximate center of the fenced area. A buried ground screen, consisting of approximately 140 radials averaging 800 feet in length, radiates from the tower. A tuning house, 15 by 10 feet, is located at the base of the tower, and feed lines lead from the tuning house to the transmitter building (item b) 700 feet to the southeast. Two tri-anchor guy systems support the tower and are located 285 by 590 feet from the base.

Rhombic Antenna Arrays: Five rhombic antennas (items 1 through 5) are located within the southern part of the fenced area. Dimensions (in feet) and orientations of each rhombic are tabulated below:

	Array 1	Array 2	Array 3	Array 4	Array 5
Length of major axis	420	350	710	480	780
Length of minor axis	200	210	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	290
Length of one side	[REDACTED]	210	[REDACTED]	255	[REDACTED]
Height of end masts	[REDACTED]				
Height of side masts					
Apex angle					
Tilt angle					
Azimuth of major axis					

Six Guyed Masts: Six guyed masts (items 6 through 11) are located in two groups within the fenced area. One group is made up of four masts (items 8 through 11) and the other group contains two masts (items 6 and 7). These masts may be vertical radiators, or they may support horizontally polarized antennas. Dimensions (in feet) are tabulated below.

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Mast Nos.	Height of Mast	Distance Apart	Azimuth*
6-7		340	
8-9	55	195	
9-10	55	220	
10-11	55	130	

25X1D

*Azimuth of a perpendicular to a projected line between the masts

25X1D

Buildings: The following buildings, all road served, are grouped together within the east portion of the fenced area.

1. Flat-roofed building (item a), with an attached lean-to section running its entire length. Over-all dimensions, [] feet.
2. Multistory probable transmitter building (item b), [] feet. Feed lines lead from this building to the large vertical radiator, and a cable scar leads north from this building to an unknown destination.
3. Flat-roofed building (item c), [] feet.
4. Flat-roofed building (item d), 90 by 60 feet, with a 15-foot-square structure on the roof.
5. Flat-roofed building (item e), [] feet, with two 10-foot-square extensions.

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Water Tower: 55 feet high and 15 feet in diameter at the top (item f).

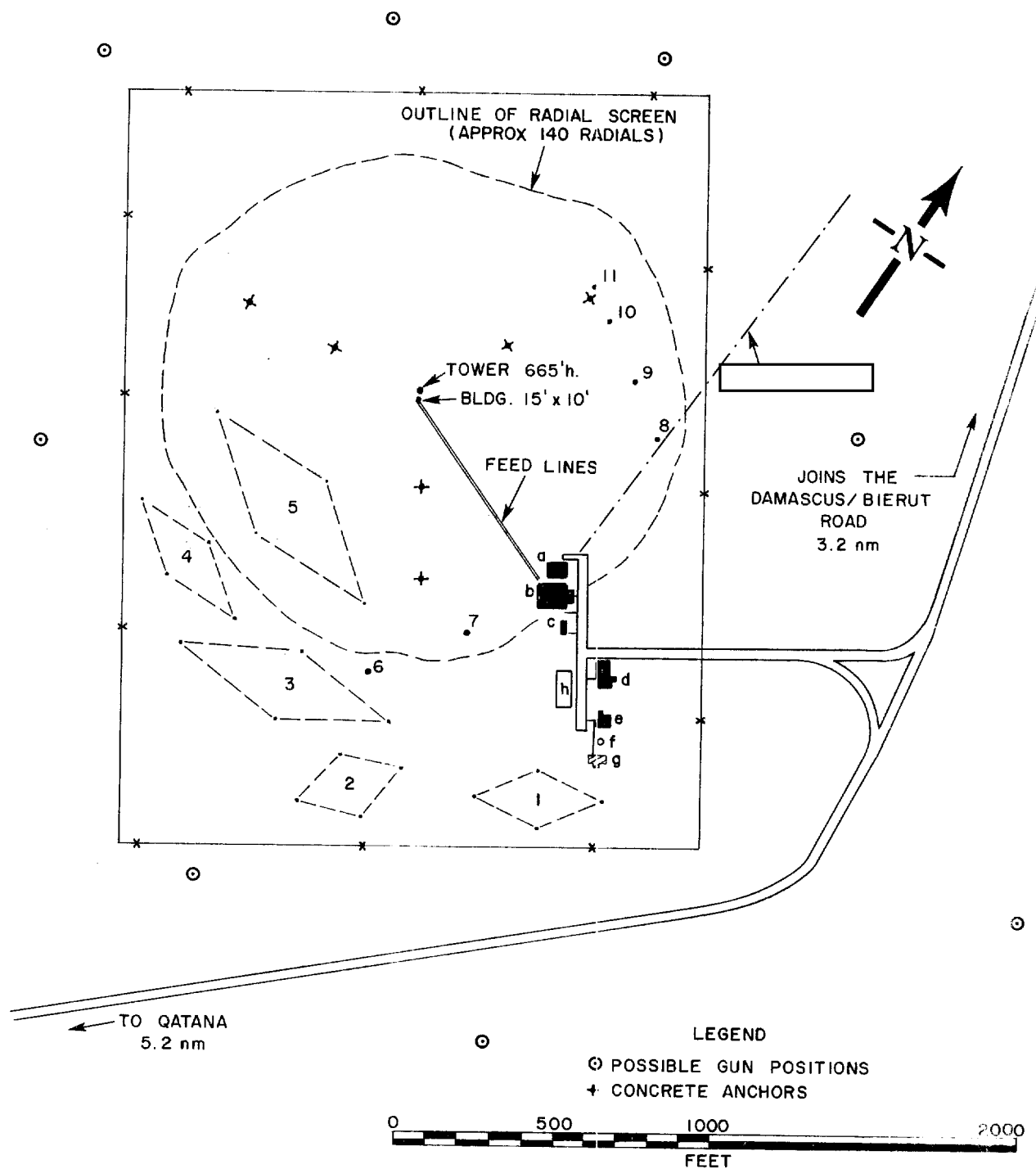
Cooling pond: 60 by 25 feet (item g).

Possible Building Base: Concrete pad 120 by 55 feet (item h).

Defense Net: Each of the eight gun positions consists of a concrete pad 15 feet square with an associated short trench. Several apparent fox holes are located at the end of each trench. Two pads contain an unidentified object.

RADIO STATION - SABBOURA, SYRIA

33° 30' N - 36° 07' E



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SAHL ES SAHRA RADIO STATION

A radio station is located at 33° 33' 30" N/36° 10' 40" E, on the south side of the Beirut/Damascus highway and east of the Sahl Es Sahara Airfield. It lies within an irregularly-shaped fenced area 4,100 by 1,100 feet overall. Construction was begun on this station in the fall of [REDACTED] and was possibly still in progress in [REDACTED]. As of the latter date, facilities consist of one rhombic antenna, one possible high frequency curtain array, and three buildings. In [REDACTED] only three of the four masts that support the rhombic antenna had been erected. The fourth rhombic mast was present in [REDACTED]. One of the buildings (item c) was complete in [REDACTED] and construction of the two other buildings (items a and b) was begun between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Power is brought into the station by a power line which enters the area from the north. A detailed description of facilities follows (see line drawing on opposite page).

Possible High Frequency Curtain Antenna Array: Two guyed lattice masts (items 1 and 2), which are 80 feet high and spaced 360 feet apart, support a possible high frequency curtain array. A perpendicular to a line projected between these two masts has an azimuth of [REDACTED].

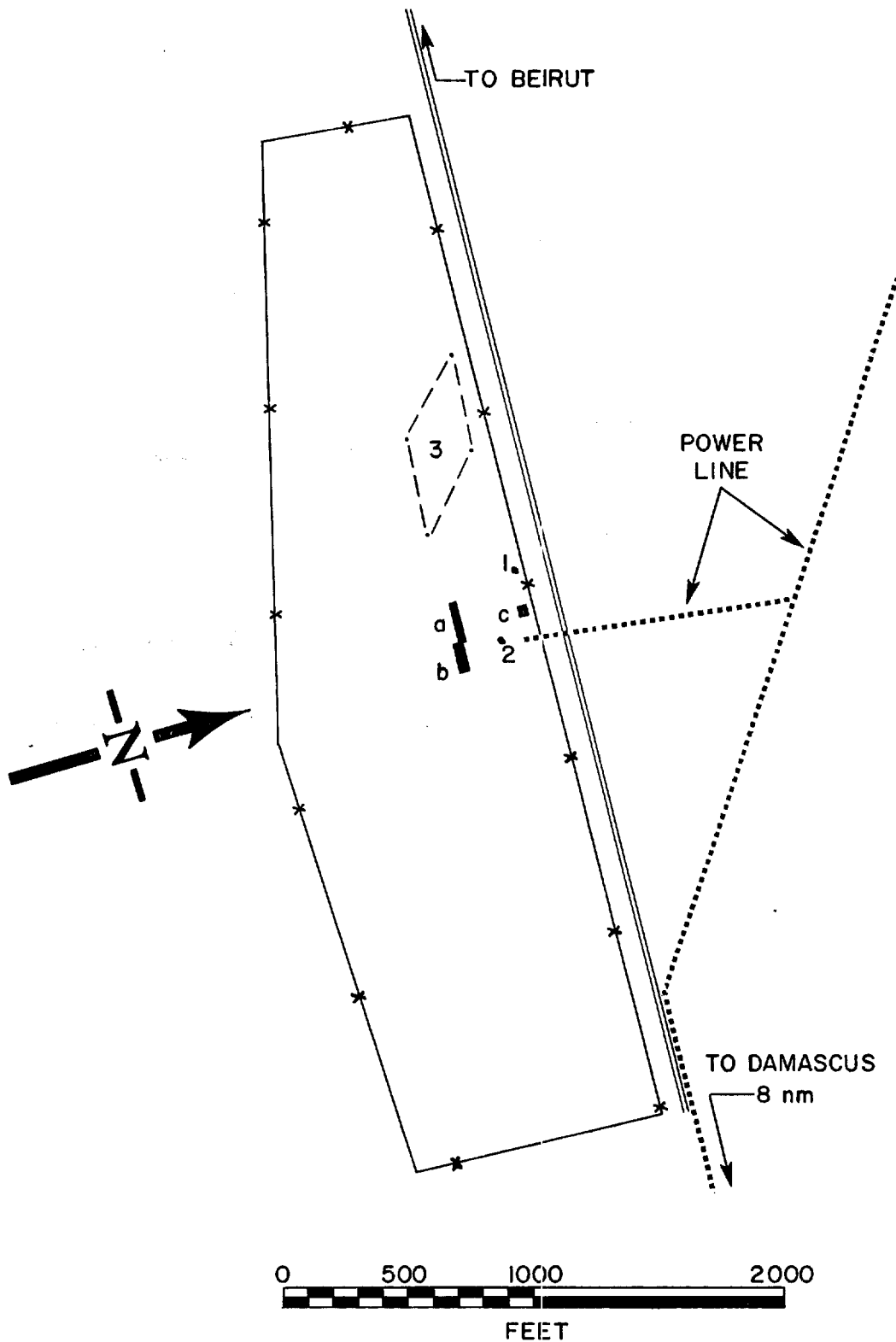
Rhombic Antenna Array: One four mast rhombic antenna (item 3) has end masts 70 feet high and side masts 80 feet high. The length of the major axis is 760 feet, the minor axis 300 feet, [REDACTED]. The apex angle is [REDACTED].

Buildings: Two buildings, one (item a) measuring [REDACTED] feet and the other, (item b) 105 by 40 feet, are situated adjacent to each other near the center of the fenced area. A third building, single story and L-shaped, is located near the fence line. One wing measures 50 by 20 feet and the other 30 by 20 feet.

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RADIO STATION NEAR SAHL ES SAHRA AIRFIELD

33° 33'N - 36° 10'E



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REQUIREMENT: Describe facilities and antenna layouts of two radio stations located near Sabboura and Sahl Es Sahara Airfield in Syria.

25X1D



MAP DATA:

AIMP 0426-9975-100, November 1956

AMS. K721 Sheet 50 L 17, Zabadani, Syria, MDR ed., 1945-AMS 1

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REFERENCES:

25X1D

OUSARMA, Syria. R-544-57, with photo enclosures dated [redacted] (S)

25X1A

AIR, Syria. [redacted] with photo enclosures dated [redacted] (S)

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